(iv)	Establishement Officer	:	Member-Secretary (ex-officio)
(v)	Secretary of the Administrative Ministry/Department concerned	:	Co-opted Member

Appointed to these posts are made on the basis of vacancies reported by each Ministry/Department of the Central Government and the officers available on offer for deputation from their respective cadre authorities.

(c) Information on the number of officers in position at the levels of Deputy Secretary/Director, Joint Secretary, Additional Secretary and Secretary, appointed under the Central Staffing Scheme, as on the 1st of April of the years 1996 to 2000 is given in the Statement annexed (*See* below). Since caste/tribe is not a criterion in making appointments to the aforesaid posts, the statistics in respect of the number of SC/ST officers appointed to posts at the above-mentioned levels is not maintained separately.

STATEMENT

Number of Officers in Position at the Levels of Deputy Secretary and above as on 1st April of the Years 1996 to 2000 Appointed under the Central Staffing Scheme

Sl. No.	Year	Secretary	Additional Secretary	Joint Secretary	Director	Dy. Secy.	Total
1.	1996	109	79	346	362	408	1304
2.	1997	110	98	368	399	396	1371
3.	1998	116	106	400	462	411	1495
4.	1999	137	106	438	477	395	1553
5.	2000	149	103	454	531	455	1692

Population Below Poverty Line

3376. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population below poverty line (BPL) in the year 1991-92 when the economic liberalisation commenced;

(b) the present percentage of population BPL in our country;

(c) whether there is an increase in the percentage of population below poverty line;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is not the consequence of new economic policy commenced from 1991 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey data on consumer expenditure collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation. These surveys are conducted once in approximately five years. The years around 1991-92 for which the poverty estimates are available relate to 1987-88 and 1993-94, based on the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the 43rd and 50th Round repectively. Accoring to these, 38.86% of the population in 1987-88 and 35.97% of the population in 1993-94 lived below the poverty line. The latest estimate of poverty are available for the year 1993-94. As the estimates of poverty after 1991-92 are available for one year only, it is not possible to conclude that the number of poor increased after the commencement of economic liberalisation. Data from the latest large sample survey on consumer expenditure is expected to become available by the end of the year.

Allocation to State Pans by Planning Commission

†3377. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has postponed the finalisation of annual plan of the States for the year 2000-2001 in the absence of guidelines with regard to the allocation of funds by the Eleventh Finance Commission;

(b) whether the Planning Commission is facing problem in assessing the known resources of the States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.